

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA  
CEDAR RAPIDS DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ) No. 14-CR- *00138* -LRR  
 )  
 ) Plaintiff, ) **Count 1**  
 ) 18 U.S.C. § 371  
 ) Conspiracy to: Make and Use  
 ) Materially False Statements and  
 ) Documents; Sell Misbranded  
 ) Meat; and Commit Mail and Wire  
 ) Fraud  
 ) **Counts 2 - 4**  
 ) 21 U.S.C. § 611  
 ) False Statements on Export  
 ) Certificates  
 ) **Counts 5 - 47**  
 ) 18 U.S.C. § 1343  
 ) Wire Fraud  
 ) **Wire Fraud Forfeiture Allegation**  
 ) **Counts 48 - 91**  
 ) 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(2)(A)  
 ) Money Laundering  
 ) **Count 92**  
 ) 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h)  
 ) Money Laundering Conspiracy  
 ) **Money Laundering Forfeiture**  
 ) **Allegation**  
 )  
vs. )  
 )  
JALEL AOSSEY, )  
 )  
WILLIAM "YAHYA" AOSSEY, )  
 )  
MIDAMAR CORPORATION, )  
 )  
ISLAMIC SERVICES OF AMERICA, and )  
 )  
ISA, INC. d/b/a "Islamic Services of )  
 ) America, Inc.,"  
 )  
Defendants. )

PRESENTED IN OPEN COURT  
BY THE  
FOREMAN OF THE GRAND JURY  
And filed 12/5/14  
ROBERT L. PHELPS, CLERK

## INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges:

### A. Introduction

At all times relevant to this Indictment:

#### United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

1. The USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) was the public health agency within USDA responsible for ensuring that beef products were safe, wholesome, and accurately labeled.
2. USDA Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) was the division of USDA responsible for verifying that beef originating in the United States met certain standards and regulations established by the USDA and by each country that imported beef products from the United States. AMS maintained an online database FSIS inspectors and exporters were to use to verify that each shipment of beef intended for export from the United States was properly labeled and eligible to be exported to the designated country.
3. In order to fulfill its regulatory and oversight responsibilities, the USDA depended upon exporters to accurately label, mark, and brand their beef products intended for export from the United States. This included the requirement that all exterior beef product packaging and product labels contain a USDA establishment number to accurately reflect the source of the products.
4. In addition, certain documents were required to be accurately completed to attest to: the identity of the USDA establishment from where the meat

originated; the wholesomeness of the meat; and to provide other information required to assist the USDA in ensuring that the meat was fit for consumption and eligible to be exported to the designated country.

5. Among the specific documents required by the USDA to be accurately completed in order for beef to be eligible for export from the United States were an "Application for Export Certificate," FSIS Form 9060-6; a so-called "Export Certificate," FSIS Form 9060-5; and a "Letterhead Certificate," FSIS Form 2630-9.

6. In addition, all labels attached to or contained within beef product packages shipped for export from the United States were required, prior to their use, to be approved by USDA for content, and to ensure that any label or ink that may come in contact with the beef would not contaminate the beef.

Midamar Corporation

7. Defendant Midamar Corporation (MIDAMAR) was incorporated as a business in the State of Iowa and operated out of its headquarters at 1105 60th Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

8. Defendant MIDAMAR's corporate directors, as reflected in filings with the Iowa Secretary of State, were defendants, JALEL AOSSEY and WILLIAM "YAHYA" AOSSEY; their father "W.B.A., Jr." (MIDAMAR's founder); and "J.S."

9. Defendant MIDAMAR was in the business of selling and distributing food products throughout the world.

10. Defendant MIDAMAR maintained a public website, [www.midamar.com](http://www.midamar.com).

Defendant MIDAMAR advertised its business, and promoted and sold its products, through this website. By at least about August 28, 2010, the website contained the following statements, claims, and representations, in part, under the section headings noted below:

**Midamar Is The Leader In All Things Halal**

Established in 1974, Midamar Corporation is a leading U.S. based Halal Food Brand and Global Supply Chain Management Company Serving the Middle East, South East Asia and the Far East.

\* \* \*

**International Development**

With much of the growth in the Middle East and Far East, MIDAMAR was a leader in developing Halal food products, as well as a pioneer in exporting quality U.S.A. products in total compliance to ever-changing and demanding newly developing import country regulations.

\* \* \*

**U.S. Development of Halal Food Market**

Midamar's commitment is to make the highest quality Halal products available to all Muslim consumers. The Midamar food name is recognized in the diverse and multi-cultural Muslim societies of the U.S.A. Muslim consumers, especially the children and youth, have come to love American food just as their friends and neighbors do. Further, Midamar's continued goal is to satisfy the Western and Ethnic Halal food requests by Muslim consumers wanting to be part of Western society, yet still remain faithful to the teachings of Islam with regard to what is Halal and Haram.

\* \* \*

**Halal Integrity**

As a Muslim Owned Company since our founding in 1974, Midamar has overseen our Halal slaughter process. Concurrently

we also engage the Halal certification and auditing services of Islamic Services of America (ISA). In the context of Islam or Islamic Law there is no requirement that a company under Muslim ownership be Halal certified if those performing the slaughter are Muslim and the Muslim owners have complete control over the Halal supply chain. However, international regulations and custom requirements by foreign countries may require food and other imported goods to bear Halal certification by a globally recognized and reputable Halal certifying body. Thus you will find that Midamar carries both our own Halal certification protocols as well as those of Islamic Services of America (ISA). Further, Midamar has been and continues to be inspected by the religious and health ministries of foreign governments including but not limited to Malaysia, Indonesia, and the UAE. In the end, Halal integrity is a matter of trust and transparency. Midamar proudly welcomes further inquiries into our Halal practices and procedures.

\* \* \*

### **Halal Certification**

Midamar proudly utilizes the globally recognized Halal certification and auditing services of Islamic Services of America (ISA). ISA is the leading Halal Certification body in the United States and North America and recognized internationally in every sector of the Halal industry including meat and poultry Halal slaughter and production services. ISA has established many of the standards and procedures commonly found in the US food industry today.

\* \* \*

### **Halal Glossary**

- **Halal** – Permissible or lawful. In the context of meat and poultry it means the animal is permissible to eat and has been slaughtered in accordance with Islamic law.
- **Haram** – Not permissible or forbidden. In the context of meat and poultry it means either the animal does not fit those animals permitted to be consumed or is not slaughtered in accordance with Islamic law.

- **Penetrative Captive Bolt Stunning** -- Hand held unit used on cattle for non-Halal slaughter. The captive bolt gun shoots a retractable steel rod into the head of the animal puncturing the skull and brain causing the animal to die from brain hemorrhage. This process is the most common method used in the US beef industry today. Captive bolt stunning kills the animal. The use of penetrative captive bolt stunning negates the Halal slaughter process.

\* \* \*

### **Owner's Message**

Midamar is North America's pioneer and oldest Halal food company in North America having been in business for over 35 years. As a Muslim family owned company since our founding in 1974, we take great pride in setting the Halal standard for Halal product development and supply to Halal consumers not only in the United States but the world over. Inshallah (God Willing), we will continue our leadership in the years ahead.

Midamar is the first company to be approved by many International Islamic Organizations in countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Kuwait, UAE, and more. Additionally, we are audited and approved through Islamic Services of America (ISA) which was started in Iowa in 1975 and to this day is the most continuous Halal certifying body in the United States and is a leading internationally recognized Halal certifier throughout the Muslim and non-Muslim world. These Islamic bodies attest to our high standards of Halal production. Above our commitment to our consumers is our religious responsibility for our actions and intentions in this life especially in our commitment to providing Halal food to others.

\* \* \*

In meeting the true definition of Halal, Midamar hand slaughters all beef... products.

\* \* \*

By providing consumers openly with the Halal methods we employ, it is then a consumer's choice as to which of our products conforms to their personal beliefs. As owners of Midamar, we feel strongly that our Halal consumers should be knowledgeable and

comfortable with the explanation of our Halal slaughter practices and product development. Ultimately your ongoing satisfaction in our products, our customer service, and our Halal integrity as the reasons we exist.

Respectfully,

Jalel Aossey  
Director/Owner

Yahya Aossey  
Director/Owner

\* \* \*

### **Halal Foods**

Since the founding of Midamar Corporation by Bill Aossey Jr. in 1974, Midamar has pioneered and continues to develop Halal practices, processes and procedures that define the USA Halal food industry.

\* \* \*

### **Midamar Halal Brand**

- Commitment to unparalleled Halal Integrity

\* \* \*

### **Export Services**

Demand for products exported from the USA is ever growing and Midamar's expertise in sourcing, translation, dating, and labeling food products to import country requirements is unmatched as we have over 35 years of experience in this field.

11. By about at least August 28, 2011, defendant MIDAMAR claimed on the above website, under the "Halal Foods" heading, that "Midamar is committed to maintaining the highest in Halal standards and integrity in all product lines."

12. Defendant MIDAMAR's website [www.midamar.com](http://www.midamar.com) was created on November 21, 1996. Defendant JALEL AOSSEY and MIDAMAR Corporation, 1105

60th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, are identified as the registrants and administrative contacts for the website.

13. Defendant MIDAMAR maintained a second public website, [www.midamarhalal.com](http://www.midamarhalal.com). Defendant MIDAMAR advertised its business, and promoted and sold its products on this website. By about at least March 9, 2011, the website contained the following statements, claims, and representations, in part, under the section headings noted below:

**About**

It is crucial that companies comply with USA Halal food laws and the laws of countries requiring products to be of Halal origin, certified Halal, and bearing the correct documentation from a reputable company in the Halal food industry.

Midamar Halal foods are held to the highest integrity at the point of slaughter, processed with the best ingredients, under strict supervision of the USDA, followed up by superior customer service, and simply held to higher standards than that of our competitors.

\* \* \*

**Owner's Message**

Midamar is North America's pioneer and oldest Halal food company in North America having been in business for over 35 years. As a Muslim family owned company since our founding in 1974, we take great pride in setting the Halal standard for Halal product development and supply to Halal consumers not only in the United States but the world over. Inshallah (God Willing), we will continue our leadership in the years ahead.

Midamar is the first company to be approved by many International Islamic Organizations in countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Kuwait, UAE, and more. Additionally, we are audited and approved through Islamic

Services of America (ISA) which was started in Iowa in 1975 and to this day is the most continuous Halal certifying body in the United States and is a leading internationally recognized Halal certifier throughout the Muslim and non-Muslim world. These Islamic bodies attest to our high standards of Halal production. Above our commitment to our consumers is our religious responsibility for our actions and intentions in this life, especially in our commitment to providing Halal food to others.

\* \* \*

In meeting the true definition of Halal, Midamar hand slaughters all beef . . . products.

\* \* \*

By providing consumers openly with the Halal methods we employ, it is then a consumer's choice as to which of our products conforms to their personal beliefs. As owners of Midamar, we feel strongly that our Halal consumers should be knowledgeable and comfortable with the explanation of our Halal slaughter practices and product development. Ultimately your ongoing satisfaction in our products, our customer service, and our Halal integrity as the reasons we exist.

Respectfully,

Jalel Aossey  
Director/Owner

Yahya Aossey  
Director/Owner

\* \* \*

### **Halal Certification**

Midamar proudly utilizes the globally recognized Halal certification and auditing services of Islamic Services of America (ISA). ISA is the leading Halal Certification body in the United States and North America and recognized internationally in every sector of the Halal industry including meat and poultry Halal slaughter and production services. Midamar Halal meat and poultry are slaughtered by ISA-trained Muslim slaughtermen. These include Halal beef, chicken, turkey, lamb, duck, and goat meat and over 200 Halal meat and poultry products. ISA has established many of the standards and procedures commonly found in the US food industry today.

\* \* \*

## Halal Glossary

- **Halal** – Permissible or lawful. In the context of meat and poultry it means the animal is permissible to eat and has been slaughtered in accordance with Islamic law.
- **Haram** – Not permissible or forbidden. In the context of meat and poultry it means either the animal does not fit those animals permitted to be consumed or is not slaughtered in accordance with Islamic law.
- **Penetrative Captive Bolt Stunning** -- Hand held unit used on cattle for non-Halal slaughter. The captive bolt gun shoots a retractable steel rod into the head of the animal puncturing the skull and brain causing the animal to die from brain hemorrhage. This process is the most common method used in the US beef industry today. Captive bolt stunning kills the animal. The use of penetrative captive bolt stunning negates the Halal slaughter process.

## Our Standards

For over 35 years, Midamar has upheld the highest standards in the Halal food industry. Our standards have ensured excellence in Halal food quality, integrity, service and satisfaction. Our standards include:

- Maintain the highest level of Halal integrity with no compromise on Shariah compliance.

\* \* \*

## FAQ's

### Is Midamar a Muslim owned Company?

Yes, we are a privately held Muslim owned business that has been serving customers for over 35 years. In fact we are USA Halal food pioneers. Being a Muslim owned company provided religious responsibility and commitment

to the integrity of our products marketing them as truly quality Halal food.

**How do I know your products are Halal?**

Being a Muslim family owned company we take great care and religious responsibility to ensure that our Midamar foods are strictly Halal. Testament to our commitment and integrity is the fact that Midamar is the oldest, most respected, and continuous quality Halal food company in North America. Customer satisfaction and peace of mind in our operations had enabled Midamar to remain the trusted leader in Halal foods reaching beyond North America to over 26 countries around the world since 1974.

14. By about at least June 9, 2011, defendant MIDAMAR made the following claim on above website:

**Halal Food of the Highest Quality and the Best Selection in America**

**We guarantee the highest and most stringent Halal standards. All Midamar products are certified Halal by the highly recognized Islamic Services of America.**

15. Defendant MIDAMAR's website www.midamarhalal.com was created on February 2, 2001. Defendant JALEL AOSSEY is identified as the registrant and administrative contact for the website. The registrant organization for the website is identified as Midamar Corporation, 1105 60th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Foreign Country Requirements**

16. Many countries, including Malaysia, Indonesia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Egypt, to name a few, restricted the import of purported Halal

beef products to products that had been certified as Halal by a certifying entity specifically approved by the respective importing country.

17. In addition to the above requirement, by at least May of 2008, Indonesia, Malaysia, Egypt, and other countries restricted the import of purported Halal beef products to those products that had been slaughtered at a facility specifically approved by the respective importing country.

18. In order for beef products to have been eligible for export from the United States, the shipment must also have complied with any restrictions imposed by the importing country.

19. It was incumbent upon the beef exporter to ensure that the beef product was eligible for export to the intended importing country. Therefore, the exporter was required to truthfully and accurately complete FSIS Form 9060-6, "Application for Export Certificate," which was to include a specification of all products contained in the shipment and a certification that the products met the import requirements of the importing country. The completed form was to be presented by the exporter to an FSIS inspector for approval and signature.

20. Upon approval of the Application for Export Certificate by FSIS, the exporter was to truthfully and accurately complete the export certificate applicable to the importing country and have that certificate approved by the appropriate official (typically a USDA veterinarian or another United States government official), as designated by the importing country.

21. When a shipment had been properly coded and authorized for export, AMS would issue a certificate (Audit, Review, and Compliance Form 1030 (Form 1030)) to verify to the exporter and to FSIS that the shipment had been authorized. This certificate was to accompany the shipment to the export destination. AMS charged exporters a fee for this Export Verification (EV) service and for the issuance of each EV certificate.

22. Most foreign countries, including Malaysia, Indonesia, Kuwait, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE, restricted the import of Halal beef to products that: had been slaughtered according to Muslim religious requirements (as interpreted by the individual country in standards adopted by the country); were certified as having been slaughtered as Halal by a Muslim organization specifically approved by the importing country to provide such a service; and, upon import to the country, were accompanied by the required Halal certificate.

23. In addition to the above requirements, Malaysia also required: the Halal slaughter to be conducted by a competent "practicing Muslim slaughterman"; a "Muslim Halal checker to be permanently stationed" at the slaughter area; the Halal checker to be a "practicing Muslim"; all Halal carcasses and products to be stored in a separate chiller and freezer from non-Halal carcasses and products; the Halal certifying body to ensure that the Malaysian Protocol for the Halal Meat Production had been followed; that only a pneumatic percussive stunner<sup>1</sup> could be

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<sup>1</sup> A pneumatic percussive stunner is an air activated device that, when used

used on the animal; and that any animal that suffered a cracked or broken skull from stunning could not be accepted as Halal.

24. Indonesia required the Halal slaughter to be performed by a Muslim slaughterman, who was properly trained, and who was a devoted Muslim. Indonesia prohibited the use of stunning equipment that caused physical disability or death to the animal, or which did not permit the animal to remain conscious for 3 -10 minutes after stunning.

25. UAE and Kuwait adhered to the Gulf Standard for Halal slaughter. Pursuant to that standard, the slaughterer must have been Muslim, Jewish, or Christian. The Halal slaughter was also required to be carried out "under the supervision of a rational equitable Muslim." Beating on the head or similar action, such as using a "bolt shot pistol," was not permitted.

26. Egypt restricted the import of Halal beef products to those products that had been certified by a Halal certifier specifically approved by Egypt.

27. The defendants were aware of the various country requirements as a result of: having attended trade shows, seminars, and conferences in the foreign countries; reviewed FSIS website information concerning the export requirements for various foreign countries; email exchanges with customers and others involved in the sale and certification of Halal meat products; and through other means.

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properly, renders an animal immediately unconscious by a blow to the head. Unlike a captive bolt stun gun, a pneumatic percussive stunner does not penetrate the hide, skull, or brain of the animal.

Islamic Services of America

28. Islamic Services of America and ISA, Inc. were incorporated in the State of Iowa and operated out of their headquarters at 1105 60th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. ISA, Inc. also adopted the name "Islamic Services of America, Inc." These entities are referred collectively throughout this indictment as "ISA" or "defendant ISA."

29. Defendant ISA's corporate filings with the State of Iowa listed "W.B.A., Jr.," defendant JALEL AOSSEY, and defendant WILLIAM "YAHYA" AOSSEY as directors and officers of the entities identified in the preceding paragraph.

30. Defendant ISA was in the business of certifying food products as Halal for customers throughout the world.

31. Defendant ISA was one of the few organizations approved by Malaysia, Indonesia, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE to certify Halal beef for import into those countries. Defendant ISA was not approved to certify Halal beef for import into Egypt during the time relevant to this Indictment.

32. Defendant ISA would inspect and certify beef slaughter or processing facilities on a periodic basis for purposes of determining whether the facility could be approved for Halal slaughter or processing. If approved, defendant ISA would issue the facility a certificate of approval for display by the approved facility.

33. Defendant ISA would typically generate several documents for beef products, including: a certificate of origin to accompany the product from the ISA-

certified slaughter facility to any subsequent processor; a "Certificate of Islamic Slaughter" (also called a "Halal Export Certificate") to accompany products intended to be exported from the United States; and a so-called "Health Certificate," also intended to accompany exports. Defendant ISA's logo was also placed on the boxes and packages containing the purported Halal beef products that originated from an ISA certified facility.

34. The certificates and other documents completed by Defendant ISA, along with the ISA logo placed on boxes or other packaging, were intended by Defendant ISA to attest that the beef had been slaughtered and processed at the facility noted on each certificate, in accordance with the standards represented by Defendant ISA, and in compliance with the distinct requirements of each country by whom Defendant ISA was recognized as an approved Halal certifier, and to where the ISA certified beef was to be exported.

35. Defendant ISA maintained a public website, [www.isaiowa.org](http://www.isaiowa.org). Defendant ISA advertised its business and promoted its services on this website. The website contained the following statements, claims, and representations, in part, under the section headings noted below:

**About I.S.A. – Who we Are**

Halal certification and auditing services has made Islamic Services of America (I.S.A.) a globally recognized symbol of Halal integrity. Islamic Services of America is a leading Halal Certification body in the United States and North America, recognized internationally in every sector of the Halal industry including meat and poultry, slaughter and production services.

\* \* \*

## **Our History**

- I.      Integrity**
- S.      Service**
- A.      Authenticity**

Our ethics, our respect for Muslim consumers, for importing country regulations, for U.S.D.A. – F.D.A., and for reputable industry are as solid as the foundation of our ethics and principles laid by our immigrant parents.

\* \* \*

## **Our Standards**

Islamic Services of America (I.S.A.) takes pride in being the oldest and most respected U.S.A. Halal certification agency. For over 35 years we have employed the most stringent standards to ensure that food, pharmaceutical, health and beauty, and other products are fully Shariah Halal compliant. This has earned the trust of consumers and industry members worldwide.

Halal slaughtered meat that bears Halal designation and certification must be qualified by a few basic principles:

- Muslim Slaughter – the slaughtering process must be conducted by a practicing Muslim who is of sound mind and has the explicit intention of performing a slaughter. The person doing the slaughter is clearly instructed in Islam to “Slaughter with mercy and slaughter swiftly.”
- Halal intention – the person who is slaughtering must make the intention of performing the slaughter and must recite the “Tasmia” which is “Bismilah, Allahu Akbar” ( in the name of Allah and Allah is Great). This must be done out loud during the slaughter on each head.

\* \* \*

## **I.S.A. Director's Letter**

From day one, we have been truly committed to maintaining the integrity of both Halal certification and the science behind it.

I.S.A. was the first Halal certifier to be internationally recognized by Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesian bodies – which are the strictest government regulatory agencies in the world. I.S.A. was also the first US certifier to be recognized in Saudi Arabia and the other countries in the Arabian Gulf.

Halal integrity, we maintain, is of utmost importance. As such, we at I.S.A. work closely with I.S.A. Halal compliant companies to develop the means to reach as many international Halal consuming markets as possible in an efficient and cost effective manner.

Our goal is to provide the most authentic and legitimate Halal service at the least possible disruption to your business.

\* \* \*

### **Halal Accreditation**

I.S.A. has been recognized by LP POM-MUI, AIFDC-ICU, Jakim and D.V.S. in Malaysia since their inceptions. Southeast Asia represents the world's most stringent enforced Halal standards. Their continuous recognition demonstrates I.S.A.'s commitment to the highest Halal standards while simultaneously making the certification process as seamless as possible for businesses.

JAKIM and D.V.S. approved since 1982.

Additionally the Muslim American Society and Islamic Centers across the USA have acknowledged I.S.A. for its integrity in maintaining the highest Halal Standards

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### **Media Information**

**No comprising [sic] on Halal principles and methods by pioneer certifier ISA**

For over 35 years, we have employed the most stringent standards to ensure that food, pharmaceuticals, health and beauty, ingredients and other products are without doubt Shariah compliant. This has earned us trust of Muslims in the Middle East, SE Asia, North America and beyond.

With regards to Halal process, let's take for example the most well known and sought after Halal product – Meat. Any meat that bears Halal designation must be qualified by a few basic principles,

- ✓ Animal Welfare – this has been a part of Islam long before animal rights activists began lobbying for humane slaughtering methods. In Islam, farmers are instructed to feed animals proper diets and to treat them humanely. We do not slaughter 'pen raised' cattle. The cattle must be able to graze in a pasture occasionally.
- ✓ Muslim Slaughtered – the slaughtering process must be conducted by a practicing Muslim who is of sound mind and who has the explicit intention of performing a slaughter. The person doing the slaughter is clearly instructed in Islam to "Slaughter with mercy and slaughter swiftly."
- ✓ The person who is slaughtering must make the intention of performing the slaughter and then must recite "Tasmia" which is typically "Bismillah and Allahu Akbar" or "In the name of Allah and Allah is Greatest". This must be done out loud during the slaughter.

At ISA, all of our slaughter men are Muslim, and are capable of slaughtering 1000 head of cattle a day. The cattle are raised up to our standards and are the same breed from the same genetics. Absolutely no animal product is fed to Iowa Cattle. This is the law and part of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association Legislation.

ISA only accepts Halal methods that follow Shariah in its purest form. It is important for Muslims to know the difference. When we say it is Halal, it is Halal based on the Islamic understanding of what is behind the meat. That means no tolerance for deviance in the form of "Tasmia" by tape recorder, phone, or by driving around the processing facility. We take a committed hard line approach and do not compromise.

\* \* \*

## **Certification Services**

Islamic Services of America's logo indicates that the Halal status of your product or service is being independently monitored by the staff of Islamic Services of America. Our logo is recognized by the Muslim consumer as the sign that your products meet the strictest standards of Halal.

\* \* \*

## **Benefits of Halal Certification**

By meeting Halal certification requirements, your company will have access to over 8 million Halal consumers in the USA and over 1.6 billion consumers worldwide. You will have opportunities in Halal markets that are currently closed to your products.

With over 35 years as a Halal certifier, I.S.A. ha developed a reputation for upholding Halal integrity.

\* \* \*

## **Why Kosher is not Halal**

Many people wrongly assume that Halal and Kosher are one and the same. If a product is Kosher certified, it does not mean the product is Halal. The Kosher process differs from what is allowable by the Islamic Shariah.

Another example of the difference between Halal and Kosher is the slaughter process. For Halal meat and poultry processing, the Muslim slaughter-man is required to acknowledge God's Creation and to thank God for providing sustenance by reciting a prayer before each and every slaughter with the statement, "In the name of God – God is the Greatest - Bismillahi Allahu Akbar."

The Shochet, or Jewish slaughter-man does not and is not, required to invoke God's name on each animal before each slaughter.

In Halal slaughtering, the entire carcass is utilized. With Kosher slaughtering, only the front fore quarter of the beef carcass is utilized. Within the meat industry, some companies and distributors attempt to claim to sell Kosher hind quarters as Halal beef. The Kosher hind quarters cannot be considered Halal

as the Shochet does not adhere to Islamic Law and Halal guidelines and does not pronounce the name of God before each slaughter.

Within Islam, Kosher slaughtering and handling is a respected process. It is important for consumers and food processors to understand the guidelines and differences between Halal and Kosher slaughter. To comply with Islamic guidelines invoking God's name before each slaughter is absolutely essential. The differences between Halal and Kosher slaughter rites must be clear so that consumers are not misled.

Halal and Kosher are similar but are as different as "vegan" and "vegetarian." In practice, many Kosher consumers consume Halal products and Halal consumers consume Kosher products. Consumers must be informed in order to choose the right products for their needs.

\* \* \*

### **Islamic Slaughter and Supervision**

Islamic Services of America employs the largest number of well-trained, highly qualified Islamic slaughter-men in the meat and poultry industry. Our slaughter-men travel throughout the United States to various U.S.D.A. and F.D.A. plants to perform Islamic supervision, inspection, and Halal slaughtering.

Halal products are derived from animals and/or poultry that have been slaughtered according to Islamic law under the following statement, "In the name of God – God is the Great - Bismillahi Allahu Akbar." The animals and/or poultry are slaughtered by means of a sharp knife, cutting through the skin, jugular vein, and trachea to result in thorough bleeding of the carcass in preparation for dressing and evisceration in accordance with Islamic guidelines. Halal products and production are properly separated, identified, and processed.

\* \* \*

### **Terminology**

- Penetrative Captive Bolt Stunning - Hand held unit used on cattle for non-Halal slaughter. The captive bolt gun shoots a

retractable steel rod into the head of the animal puncturing the skull and brain causing the animal to die from brain hemorrhage. This process is the most common method used in the US beef industry today. Captive bolt stunning kills the animal. The use of penetrative captive bolt stunning in any capacity negates the Halal slaughter process.

\* \* \*

### **Meat**

Islamic Services of America ensures that Halal slaughter methods, as outlined in the Shariah, are employed during Halal meat slaughter. This means well trained practicing Muslim slaughter men, reciting Tasmia in person. It also means that the animals are vegetarian fed, treated humanely, and that there is a proper hygienic process employed.

36. Defendant ISA's website [www.isaiowa.org](http://www.isaiowa.org) was created on September 6, 2002. Defendant JALEL AOSSEY is identified as the registrant and the administrative contact for the website. The registrant organization for the website is identified as Midamar Corporation, 1105 60th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

### Tri-Bin, Inc.

37. Tri-Bin, Inc. (Tri-Bin) owns the land and building located at 1105 60th Avenue SW, the corporate offices and warehouse of Midamar Corporation. ISA's office was also located in the same building. Defendant MIDAMAR issued checks to Tri-Bin on a monthly basis that included rent payments for its operating location. Tri-Bin is owned by "W.B.A., Jr."

### PM

38. PM operated a beef slaughter and production facility in Windom, Minnesota.

39. PM operated under United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) establishment number 683.

40. PM was Defendant MIDAMAR's primary supplier of slaughtered beef.

41. PM was annually certified by Defendant ISA.

42. The great majority of PM's business involved the slaughter of cattle by rabbis under Kosher ritual slaughter.

43. Some of the beef slaughtered by rabbis at PM, under Kosher ritual slaughter, was sold to Defendant MIDAMAR.

44. PM also produced beef for sale to Defendant MIDAMAR that had been slaughtered by Muslim slaughtermen employed by Defendant ISA. In an average week, the beef slaughtered by a Muslim slaughterman at PM represented only a relatively small fraction of all beef slaughtered at PM.

45. PM also slaughtered beef that had not been slaughtered by any religious slaughterman, including any rabbi or Muslim slaughterman, and beef for which the slaughter had not been supervised by any Muslim slaughterman. Some of this beef was sold to Defendant MIDAMAR.

46. Defendant ISA employed Muslim slaughtermen to personally perform ritual Halal slaughter at PM for beef sold to Defendant MIDAMAR. Although the slaughtermen were to be hired and supervised by Defendant ISA, they were paid from a MIDAMAR checking account.

47. The Muslim slaughtermen who worked at PM were required to pass

through security at PM and to sign in and out of the plant each time they worked at the plant.

48. A captive bolt stun gun was used to ensure that all beef cattle slaughtered at PM were rendered senseless and were dead. This device is operated by placing an air-powered gun to the head of the animal and pulling a trigger. When activated, the device shot a retractable steel rod into the head of the animal, puncturing the skull and brain, causing the animal to die from brain hemorrhage.

49. PM was not certified by Malaysia or Indonesia to export beef products to either country. Without such certification PM products were not authorized to be imported into either country. PM was approved to slaughter beef for export to other countries.

O.P.C., Inc.

50. O.P.C. operated a beef slaughter and production facility in Omaha, Nebraska. O.P.C. provided custom beef slaughter services for both religious and non-religious slaughter customers.

51. O.P.C. operated under United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) establishment number 889A.

52. O.P.C. occasionally slaughtered and processed beef for MIDAMAR but did not do so between about the middle of July 2007 through about April 2010.

53. O.P.C. was approved by both Malaysia and Indonesia to export beef to those countries between at least July 2007 and 2010, but O.P.C. did not sell any beef to

MIDAMAR during that time. OPC was also approved to slaughter beef for export to other countries.

COUNT 1

Conspiracy to: Make and Use Materially False Statements and Documents;  
Sell Misbranded Meat; and Commit Mail and Wire Fraud

54. Paragraphs 1-53 of this Indictment are incorporated by this reference as if fully set forth here.

55. Beginning in about 2007, and continuing into at least April 2012, defendants JALEL AOSSEY, WILLIAM "YAHYA" AOSSEY, MIDAMAR CORPORATION (MIDAMAR), ISLAMIC SERVICES OF AMERICA (ISA), and ISA, INC., d/b/a "Islamic Services of America, Inc.," did knowingly and unlawfully conspire and agree with other persons known to the grand jury, to commit the following violations of law:

- 1) in a matter within the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture, to cover up material facts by a scheme; in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001;
- 2) in a matter within the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture, to make false and fraudulent statements and representations, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001;
- 3) in a matter within the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture, to make and use false documents in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001;
- 4) to sell in commerce articles that had been misbranded, with intent to defraud, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 610;

- 5) to make false statements on export certificates, with intent to defraud, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 611;
- 6) to use the mail or a private or commercial interstate carrier for the purpose of executing or attempting to execute a scheme, to defraud, and to obtain money by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1341;
- 7) to use the wire for the purpose of executing or attempting to execute a scheme, to defraud, and to obtain money by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

**Manner and Means of the Conspiracy**

56. As set out below, the defendants and others known to the grand jury generated a variety of fabricated certificates, writings, and representations, including export documents, that contained false, fraudulent, deceptive, and misleading claims and information concerning: the source and nature of beef products referenced in the certificates and writings; the manner of slaughter; the level of adherence to certain represented Halal practices and standards; and other matters, regarding the beef products marketed and sold by defendant MIDAMAR, and certified as Halal by defendant ISA and others.

57. The false, fraudulent, deceptive, and misleading certificates, writings, and representations were generated: 1) to give the false impression that the

accompanying shipments of beef products complied with the import requirements of the countries to where the beef was being shipped; 2) to give the false appearance that all United States Department of Agriculture requirements had been satisfied; 3) to give the false appearance that certain beef slaughter practices and standards had been followed; and 4) to result in the payment of money to the defendants and others.

58. Between at least April 2007 and about January 2010:

- a. The USDA establishment number 683 markings were removed by defendant MIDAMAR employees from the individual vacuum-sealed beef product packages, using acetone or nail polish remover.
- b. Defendant MIDAMAR employees produced new fraudulent labels to be placed on the exterior of boxes of beef received from PM.
- c. Defendant MIDAMAR employees substituted false USDA establishment number 889A (representing O.P.C.) in place of USDA establishment number 683 (representing PM) on the boxes received from PM.
- d. USDA establishment number 889A was placed on packages of beef products intended for export to Malaysia and Indonesia, in place of establishment number 683.

- e. USDA Export Certificates were generated by Defendant MIDAMAR for beef products intended for export to Malaysia and Indonesia. The certificates falsely stated the beef products originated from animals slaughtered at USDA establishment number 889A when, in truth and in fact, the products originated from animals slaughtered at USDA establishment number 683.
- f. Letterhead Certificates were also generated to falsely attest that the beef products intended for export to Malaysia and Indonesia had originated from USDA establishment number 889A when, in truth and in fact, the products originated from animals slaughtered at USDA establishment number 683.
- g. Defendant MIDAMAR employees sent the false Export Certificates and false Letterhead Certificates to USDA inspectors and veterinarians for signature, via the U.S. Mail or commercial courier service.
- h. The respective USDA inspectors and veterinarians signed the false Export and Letterhead Certificates in reliance upon the false information contained thereon.
- i. The false and fabricated documents referenced above accompanied the respective beef shipments to Malaysia and Indonesia.

59. At all times relevant to this Indictment:

- a. Defendant MIDAMAR promoted its business and the use of Defendant ISA's Halal certification through a variety of trade shows, emails, publications, and other outreach efforts.
- b. Defendants MIDAMAR and ISA promoted their businesses via the internet as noted elsewhere in this Indictment.
- c. As part of the combined promotional efforts of defendants MIDAMAR and ISA, representations were repeatedly made that ISA adhered to "the highest," "the strictest," or the "most stringent" Halal standards, or claims to that effect. It was represented that defendant ISA takes a "committed hard line approach and do[es] not compromise" and only accepts Halal methods in their "purest form." Defendant ISA further claimed all of its "slaughter men are Muslim." Defendants MIDAMAR and ISA both explained on websites and elsewhere that Kosher was not Halal, and claimed that "[t]he use of penetrative captive bolt stunning in any capacity negates the Halal slaughter process." Defendants MIDAMAR and ISA made numerous others claims concerning beef products sold by defendant MIDAMAR and certified by defendant ISA.
- d. Customer orders were taken by defendant MIDAMAR for the sale and export of Halal beef products to customers in Malaysia,

Indonesia, UAE, Kuwait, Egypt, and elsewhere. Similar orders were taken for the sale and shipment of Halal beef products to customers in the United States.

- e. Defendant MIDAMAR placed orders by phone or email with PM for the slaughter and production of beef to be used to fill orders received by defendant MIDAMAR.
- f. PM shipped beef products in interstate commerce to defendant MIDAMAR to fulfill orders placed with PM by defendant MIDAMAR.
- g. Beef slaughtered and produced by PM, and shipped to defendant MIDAMAR, was marked by PM with PM's USDA establishment number, 683, on adhesive labels adhered to the exterior of the shipping boxes, or preprinted on the exterior of defendant MIDAMAR's product boxes; on the individual vacuum-sealed beef packages contained inside the shipping boxes; and on the accompanying documentation.
- h. Beef products sold by defendant MIDAMAR were typically shipped in boxes containing defendant ISA's seal and a Halal logo.
- i. Beef products sold by defendant MIDAMAR were shipped in interstate and foreign commerce via private and commercial carriers to customers within and outside the United States.

- j. Beef products exported by defendant MIDAMAR were accepted by foreign countries for import into their countries.
- k. Customers paid for beef products purchased from defendant MIDAMAR by making a wire transfer to defendant MIDAMAR's bank account at Cedar Rapids Bank and Trust (CRBT), account number with the last four digits "1568" or by other means.
- l. On a periodic basis defendant MIDAMAR would "sweep" funds from account "1568" to be applied to its loan/line of credit with CRBT account number with the last four digits "2409."
- m. Defendant MIDAMAR regularly drew upon its loan/line of credit with CRBT to fund its operating account, from which payments were made, by check and wire, to satisfy ongoing business expenses including marketing, internet services, payroll, product, rent, and shipping expenses.

60. At various times relevant to this indictment:

- a. Contrary to representations made by defendants MIDAMAR and ISA, beef certified by defendant ISA as complying with the Halal slaughter standards promoted by defendants MIDAMAR and ISA, had not been slaughtered in accordance with the represented or required standards. For example:
  1. Between at least April 2010 and June 2012, all cattle slaughtered at PM, and marketed and sold by

defendant MIDAMAR as “Halal,” had been shot in the head with a brain penetrating captive bolt stun gun, despite representations made by both defendants ISA and MIDAMAR that the “use of penetrative captive bolt stunning in any capacity negates the Halal slaughter process.”

2. In many instances, beef slaughtered at PM and marketed and sold by defendant MIDAMAR as “Halal,” was not slaughtered by a Muslim slaughterman, despite ISA’s certification that the beef had been “Hand Slaughtered by a Muslim Slaughterman” or “Slaughtered by Muslim Slaughtermen.”
3. In many instances, beef slaughtered at PM and marketed and sold by defendant MIDAMAR as “Halal,” was neither slaughtered nor supervised by a Muslim slaughterman, despite representations made by defendants ISA and MIDAMAR that all beef needed to be slaughtered by a Muslim slaughterman in order to be designated Halal.
4. In many instances, the “Tasmia” was not pronounced at any time during the slaughter of beef cattle at PM. This was despite the representation that a Muslim slaughterman was required to personally recite the prayer “before each and every slaughter.”
5. In many instances, hind quarters, and other beef products slaughtered as Kosher were marketed and sold in whole or in part as Halal beef, despite the representation that the “Kosher hind quarters cannot be considered Halal as the Shochet does not adhere to Islamic Law and Halal guidelines and does not pronounce the name of God before each slaughter” and despite other representations to the effect that Kosher does not equal Halal, and that defendant MIDAMAR would not market Kosher beef as Halal.

- b. Samples of beef products were intentionally hidden within larger export shipments without the required documentation.
- c. Where defendant ISA was not approved as a Halal certifier for a particular foreign country, Halal certificates were purchased from another Halal certifier approved by the foreign country, to give the false appearance that the accompanying beef products had been slaughtered by or under the supervision of the approved certifier, and therefore eligible to be exported to the foreign country.
- d. Export documents for beef products apparently intended for export to Singapore were altered to reflect an ultimate destination of Malaysia after the documents had been signed by a USDA official. This was done to circumvent restrictions on certain beef exports to Malaysia.
- e. Actual beef product production dates, required for food tracking and export compliance purposes, were not properly tracked and were thus “estimated” on export documents.
- f. In addition to instances referenced elsewhere in this indictment, false health certificates were created to accompany beef exports. The false certificates were made to falsely appear as if they were certificates of the Department of Agriculture through the

unauthorized use of the Department seal on the documents.

Some of the certificates also contained the forged signature of a fictitious "Director" of ISA.

61. Defendants JALEL AOSSEY, WILLIAM "YAHYA" AOSSEY, MIDAMAR, and ISA, individually and through their authorized representatives, directed, oversaw, counseled, commanded, procured, approved of, and agreed to the commission of acts referenced above.

Overt Acts

62. In furtherance of the above conspiracy, and to effect the objects thereof, the following overt acts, among others, were committed in the Northern District of Iowa, and elsewhere:

- a. USDA Export Certificates were generated, including on about the following dates, each of which is alleged as a separate overt act:

	<u>Certificate No.</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
1.	MPG-317734	June 20, 2007
2.	MPG-317737	June 20, 2007
3.	MPG-317751	August 17, 2007
4.	MPG-762485	January 30, 2008
5.	MPG-762506	April 24, 2008
6.	MPG-762632	June 19, 2008
7.	MPH-057120	July 17, 2008
8.	MPH-057127	July 31, 2008
9.	MPH-057135	August 27, 2008
10.	MPH-057143	September 25, 2008
11.	MPH-057081	October 21, 2008
12.	MPF-410206	April 15, 2009
13.	MPF-410208	April 16, 2009

14.	MPF-410224	June 10, 2009
15.	MPH-059082	September 23, 2009
16.	MPH-059091	October 21, 2009
17.	MPH-059099	October 30, 2009
18.	MPH-059111	November 19, 2009
19.	MPH-059115	December 2, 2009
20.	MPH-059126	December 30, 2009
21.	MPE-042868	January 14, 2010
22.	MPE-042870	January 14, 2010

b. Letterhead Certificates were generated, for shipments to Malaysia and Indonesia, including on about the following dates, each of which is alleged as a separate overt act:

	<u>Certificate No.</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
1.	MPG-317734	June 20, 2007
2.	MPG-317737	June 20, 2007
3.	MPG-317751	August 17, 2007
4.	MPG-762485	January 30, 2008
5.	MPG-762506	April 24, 2008
6.	MPG-762632	June 19, 2008
7.	MPH-057120	July 17, 2008
8.	MPH-057127	July 31, 2008
9.	MPH-057135	August 27, 2008
10.	MPH-057143	September 25, 2008
11.	MPH-057081	October 17, 2008
12.	MPF-410206	April 15, 2009
13.	MPF-410208	April 16, 2009
14.	MPF-410224	June 10, 2009
15.	MPH-059082	September 23, 2009
16.	MPH-059091	October 21, 2009
17.	MPH-059099	October 30, 2009
18.	MPH-059111	November 19, 2009
19.	MPH-059115	December 2, 2009
20.	MPH-059126	December 30, 2009
21.	MPE-042868	January 14, 2010

c. Certificates of Islamic Slaughter (also known as "Halal Export Certificates") were generated and signed by, or on behalf of, the Director of ISA, for exports of beef products from the United States, including on about the following dates, each of which is alleged as a separate overt act:

	<u>Certificate No.</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
1.	0620-07-5156	June 22, 2007
2.	0921-07-6327	September 21, 2007
3.	0817-07-6177	August 17, 2007
4.	0130-08-6916	January 30, 2008
5.	0424-08-7117	April 24, 2008
6.	0619-08-7805	June 19, 2008
7.	0716-08-7951	July 16, 2008
8.	0731-08-8027	July 31, 2008
9.	Jumada II 1429H	August 2008
10.	0924-08-8285	September 24, 2008
11.	1022-08-8387	October 22, 2008
12.	0416-09-9160	April 16, 2009
13.	0416-09-9161	April 16, 2009
14.	1006-09-9999	June 10, 2009
15.	0925-09-9610	September 25, 2009
16.	1022-09-9700	October 22, 2009
17.	INDO-09-1A	October 30, 2009
18.	INDO-09-2A	November 20, 2009
19.	1203-09-9809	December 3, 2009
20.	1230-09-9893	December 30, 2009
21.	0114-10-9935	January 14, 2010
22.	INDO-10-1A	January 14, 2010
23.	0503-10-10327	May 3, 2010
24.	0528-10-10429	June 28, 2010
25.	0701-10-10562	July 1, 2010
26.	0712-10-10599	July 12, 2010
27.	0730-10-10660	July 30, 2010

28.	0824-10-10718	August 24, 2010
29.	0909-10-10771	September 9, 2010
20.	1018-10-10968	October 18, 2010
31.	1202-10-11204	December 2, 2010
32.	1203-10-11207A	December 3, 2010
33.	1217-10-11309	December 17, 2010
34.	0113-11-11492	January 13, 2011
35.	0126-11-11602	January 26, 2011
36.	0209-11-11708	February 9, 2011
37.	0318-11-11932	March 18, 2011
38.	0407-11-12036	April 7, 2011
39.	0629-11-12520	June 29, 2011
40.	0707-11-12554	July 7, 2011
41.	0726-11-12684	July 26, 2011
42.	0915-11-13005	September 15, 2011
43.	0919-11-13026	September 19, 2011
44.	1104-11-13304	November 4, 2011
45.	1010-11-13140	October 10, 2011
46.	1115-11-13369	November 15, 2011
47.	0111-12-13794	January 11, 2012
48.	0111-12-13801	January 11, 2012
49.	0111-12-13748	January 11, 2012
50.	0120-12-13878	January 20, 2012
51.	0129-12-13902	January 23, 2012
52.	0210-12-14041	February 10, 2012
53.	0216-12-14080	February 16, 2012
54.	0323-12-14343	March 23, 2012
55.	0405-12-14442	April 5, 2012
56.	0405-12-14424	April 5, 2012

d. USDA Export Certificates, Certificates of Islamic Slaughter, (corresponding to the respective item numbers noted in subparagraphs (a) and (c) above) and other documents pertaining to particular beef shipments were sent via wire by defendant MIDAMAR to customers in Malaysia and Indonesia, including on

about the dates noted below, each of which is alleged as a separate overt act:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Method</u>
17.	11-03-2009	Indonesia	e-mail
18.	11-23-2009	Indonesia	e-mail
19.	12-03-2009	Malaysia	e-mail
20.	12-30-2009	Malaysia	e-mail
21.	01-14-2010	Malaysia	e-mail and fax
22.	01-14-2010	Indonesia	e-mail

e. USDA Export Certificates, Certificates of Islamic Slaughter, and other documents pertaining to particular beef shipments were deposited to be delivered with a private commercial interstate carrier, for shipments to Malaysia and Indonesia, including on about the dates noted below, each of which is alleged as a separate overt act:

	<u>Export No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Carrier</u>
1.	42870	01-14-2010	Forward Air
2.	42868	01-14-2010	Forward Air
3.	59126	12-31-2009	Forward Air
4.	59115	12-03-2009	Forward Air
5.	59111	11-23-2009	DHL
6.	59099	10-31-2009	Forward Air
7.	59091	10-22-2009	Forward Air

f. Payments were wired to defendant MIDAMAR's CRBT bank account "1568" on about the dates noted below, from the countries noted below, for beef products purchased from defendant MIDAMAR, and exported by defendant MIDAMAR, to customers in the countries noted below, with each payment being alleged as an overt act:

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Payment</u>	<u>Customer's Country</u>
1.	09-19-2007	\$244,914.23	Malaysia
2.	08-21-2008	10,735.00	Malaysia
3.	09-10-2008	93,626.52	Malaysia
4.	09-19-2008	14,985.00	Malaysia

5.	11-04-2008	28,708.08	Malaysia
6.	12-05-2008	207,613.02	Malaysia
7.	05-14-2009	16,475.08	Malaysia
8.	05-28-2009	6,439.00	Malaysia
9.	06-24-2009	17,791.69	Malaysia
10.	10-23-2009	4,510.00	Malaysia
11.	10-28-2009	7,982.50	Indonesia
12.	11-13-2009	8,985.00	Malaysia
13.	11-25-2009	15,081.33	Malaysia
14.	11-24-2009	31,794.92	Indonesia
15.	12-29-2009	16,105.73	Malaysia
16.	01-19-2010	7,685.00	Malaysia
17.	01-19-2010	31,874.80	Indonesia
18.	01-28-2010	74,459.40	Malaysia
19.	07-06-2010	29,584.07	UAE
20.	07-09-2010	84,271.88	Kuwait
21.	08-31-2010	52,768.84	Kuwait
22.	09-07-2010	115,091.53	Kuwait
23.	09-16-2010	180,103.37	UAE
24.	10-12-2010	132,574.15	Kuwait
25.	10-12-2010	132,574.15	UAE
26.	10-21-2010	66,347.67	Kuwait
27.	12-21-2010	127,551.89	Kuwait
28.	12-30-2010	98,975.50	UAE
29.	01-26-2011	90,570.59	Kuwait
30.	01-31-2011	87,378.19	UAE
31.	03-07-2011	159,505.22	UAE
32.	03-21-2011	120,869.95	Kuwait
33.	04-04-2011	71,722.14	Kuwait
34.	05-09-2011	240,399.96	Kuwait
35.	05-31-2011	164,267.50	UAE
36.	08-22-2011	138,476.93	UAE
37.	08-22-2011	223,128.75	Kuwait
38.	09-15-2011	148,794.36	UAE
39.	10-24-2011	133,413.92	UAE
40.	11-14-2011	187,604.38	Kuwait

41. 12-09-2011	121,285.00	UAE
42. 12-15-2011	172,831.92	UAE
43. 01-04-2012	104,359.10	UAE
44. 02-28-2012	150,134.65	UAE
45. 03-06-2012	119,223.12	UAE
46. 03-20-2012	25,337.43	Kuwait
47. 04-09-2012	62,946.79	UAE
48. 04-27-2012	139,984.52	Kuwait
49. 05-01-2012	94,360.95	UAE
50. 05-15-2012	61,158.15	Kuwait
51. 05-29-2012	139,330.09	UAE
52. 05-31-2012	77,950.20	UAE
53. 06-13-2012	91,549.00	UAE
54. 07-06-2012	45,110.77	Kuwait
55. 07-09-2012	142,517.55	UAE
56. 08-14-2012	160,769.78	Kuwait
57. 09-12-2012	139,973.98	UAE
58. 09-21-2012	258,287.76	Kuwait

63. This was all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.

**COUNTS 2-4**  
**False Statement on Export Certificates**

64. Paragraphs 1-53, 56-60, and 62 of this Indictment are incorporated by this reference as if fully set forth here.

65. On about the following dates, each such act constituting a separate count, in the Northern District of Iowa, defendants JALEL AOSSEY, WILLIAM "YAHYA" AOSSEY, MIDAMAR CORPORATION, ISLAMIC SERVICES OF AMERICA, and ISA, INC., d/b/a "Islamic Services of America, Inc.," did knowingly make, aid, abet, counsel, induce, and procure the making of a materially false statement, with the

intent to defraud, on an official certificate provided for in regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture (Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations), to wit: by stating on a Department of Agriculture, Food Safety Inspection Service Form 9060-5, that the meat products reflected thereon were produced at USDA establishment number 889A, when in truth and fact the products had been produced at USDA establishment number 683.

	<u>COUNT</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Certificate Number</u>
66.	2	December 30, 2009	MPH-059126
67.	3	January 14, 2010	MPE-042868
68.	4	January 14, 2010	MPE-042870

69. This was in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 611(b)(5), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

COUNTS 5 – 47  
Wire Fraud

70. Paragraphs 1-53, 55-62, and 65-68 of this Indictment are incorporated herein by this reference.

Scheme to Defraud

71. Defendants JALEL AOSSEY, WILLIAM “YAHYA” AOSSEY, MIDAMAR CORPORATION (MIDAMAR), ISLAMIC SERVICES OF AMERICA (ISA), ISA INC., d/b/a “Islamic Services of America, Inc.,” and others known to the grand jury, devised, intended to devise, and attempted to devise, a scheme and artifice, to

defraud; and to obtain money by false and fraudulent pretenses and promises; involving the marketing, sale, and shipment of purported Halal beef to customers in Indonesia, Malaysia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, and elsewhere, as more fully outlined in the paragraphs incorporated above.

72. On about each of the dates referenced below, in the Northern District of Iowa, for the purpose of executing or attempting to execute the above-referenced scheme and artifice, to defraud; and to obtain money by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises; the defendants and their authorized representatives knowingly caused, induced, procured, and aided and abetted the transmission, by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce, of monetary payments to defendant MIDAMAR's bank account "1568" at CRBT, as outlined below, each transmission constituting a separate count:

<u>¶</u>	<u>COUNT</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount Transmitted</u>	<u>Payment on Behalf of Customer / Country</u>
73.	5	December 29, 2009	\$ 16,105.73	Suvinsa / Malaysia
74.	6	January 19, 2010	7,685.00	PT Indoguna (Surya Cemerlang) /Indonesia
75.	7	January 19, 2010	31,874.80	Suvinsa / Malaysia
76.	8	January 28, 2010	74,459.40	Suvinsa / Malaysia
77.	9	July 6, 2010	29,584.07	Trans Ocean / UAE
78.	10	July 9, 2010	84,271.88	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
79.	11	August 31, 2010	52,768.84	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
80.	12	September 7, 2010	115,091.53	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
81.	13	September 16, 2010	180,103.37	Trans Ocean / UAE
82.	14	October 12, 2010	132,574.15	Trans Ocean / UAE

83.	<b>15</b>	October 21, 2010	66,347.67	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
84.	<b>16</b>	December 21, 2010	127,551.39	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
85.	<b>17</b>	December 30, 2010	98,975.50	Trans Ocean / UAE
86.	<b>18</b>	January 26, 2011	90,570.59	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
87.	<b>19</b>	January 31, 2011	87,378.19	Trans Ocean / UAE
88.	<b>20</b>	March 7, 2011	159,505.22	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
89.	<b>21</b>	March 21, 2011	120,869.95	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
90.	<b>22</b>	April 4, 2011	71,722.14	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
91.	<b>23</b>	May 9, 2011	240,299.96	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
92.	<b>24</b>	May 31, 2011	164,267.50	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
93.	<b>25</b>	August 22, 2011	138,476.93	Trans Ocean / UAE
94.	<b>26</b>	August 22, 2011	223,128.57	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
95.	<b>27</b>	September 15, 2011	148,794.36	Trans Ocean / UAE
96.	<b>28</b>	October 24, 2011	133,413.92	Trans Ocean / UAE
97.	<b>29</b>	November 7, 2011	187,604.38	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
98.	<b>30</b>	December 9, 2011	121,285.00	Trans Ocean / UAE
99.	<b>31</b>	December 15, 2011	172,831.92	Trans Ocean / UAE
100.	<b>32</b>	January 30, 2012	104,359.10	Trans Ocean / UAE
101.	<b>33</b>	February 28, 2012	150,134.65	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
102.	<b>34</b>	March 6, 2012	119,223.12	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
103.	<b>35</b>	March 20, 2012	25,337.43	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
104.	<b>36</b>	April 9, 2012	62,946.79	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
105.	<b>37</b>	April 27, 2012	139,984.52	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
106.	<b>38</b>	May 1, 2012	94,360.95	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
107.	<b>39</b>	May 15, 2012	61,158.15	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
108.	<b>40</b>	May 29, 2012	139,330.09	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
109.	<b>41</b>	May 31, 2012	77,950.20	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
110.	<b>42</b>	June 13, 2012	91,549.00	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
111.	<b>43</b>	July 6, 2012	45,110.77	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
112.	<b>44</b>	July 9, 2012	142,517.55	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
113.	<b>45</b>	August 14, 2012	160,769.78	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait
114.	<b>46</b>	September 20, 2012	139,973.98	Al Ashrafiya / UAE
115.	<b>47</b>	September 21, 2012	258,287.76	Al Ashrafiya / Kuwait

116. This was all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 2.

**Wire Fraud Forfeiture Allegation**

117. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1-53, 55-62, 65-68, and 71-115 of this Indictment are hereby re-alleged and incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

118. Upon conviction of the offenses in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 371 and 1343, set forth in Counts 1, and Counts 5 - 47, inclusive, of this Indictment, the defendants, JALEL AOSSEY, WILLIAM "YAHYA" AOSSEY, MIDAMAR CORPORATION (MIDAMAR), ISLAMIC SERVICES OF AMERICA (ISA), and ISA INC., d/b/a "Islamic Services of America, Inc.," shall forfeit to the United States of America, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the offenses. This may include, but is not limited to, a money judgment equal to the sum of said proceeds.

119. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty,

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

**COUNTS 48- 91**  
**Money Laundering**

120. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1-53, 55-62, 65-68, and 71-115 of this Indictment are hereby re-alleged and incorporated by reference.

121. On about each date specified below, in the Northern District of Iowa and elsewhere, with each transaction constituting a separate count, defendants, JALEL AOSSEY, WILLIAM "YAHYA" AOSSEY, MIDAMAR CORPORATION (MIDAMAR), ISLAMIC SERVICES OF AMERICA (ISA), and ISA INC., d/b/a "Islamic Services of America, Inc." did knowingly cause, aid, abet, induce, and procure the transmission and transfer of a monetary instrument and funds to a place in the United States, (CRBT account "1568"), from or through a place outside the United States (noted in the chart below), with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity, that is, wire fraud in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

<b><u>¶</u></b>	<b><u>COUNT</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Amount Transferred</u></b>	<b><u>Transferred From</u></b>
122.	48	April 21, 2010	\$ 140,401.90	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
123.	49	May 12, 2010	94,089.55	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
124.	50	June 7, 2010	169,734.95	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE

125.	51	July 9, 2010	84,271.88	Alahli Bank of Kuwait Safat, Kuwait
126.	52	August 5, 2010	93,254.35	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
127.	53	August 10, 2010	228,193.90	HBME Kuwait Main Safat, Kuwait
128.	54	August 12, 2010	71,356.88	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
129.	55	August 24, 2010	280,328.60	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
130.	56	August 31, 2010	52,768.84	Alahli Bank of Kuwait Safat, Kuwait
131.	57	September 24, 2010	85,762.14	CIMB Bank Berhad Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
132.	58	October 28, 2010	186,638.13	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
133.	59	November 15, 2010	130,644.54	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
134.	60	December 24, 2010	94,422.20	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
135.	61	January 4, 2011	141,473.14	Fimbank P.L.C. Sliema, Malta
136.	62	January 28, 2011	182,587.30	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
137.	63	February 22, 2011	111,448.63	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
138.	64	March 7, 2011	87,168.00	Al-Rajhi Banking and Investment Corp. Saudi Arabia
139.	65	March 8, 2011	95,011.85	Ahli United Bank SC Kuwait
140.	66	March 18, 2011	97,274.73	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
141.	67	March 30, 2011	96,482.02	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
142.	68	April 15, 2011	133,679.74	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
143.	69	May 16, 2011	167,444.50	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE

144.	70	May 19, 2011	93,210.00	Ahli United Bank SC Kuwait
145.	71	June 23, 2011	136,063.22	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
146.	72	June 29, 2011	212,871.78	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
147.	73	July 28, 2011	79,972.00	Al-Rajhi Banking and Investment Corp. Saudi Arabia
148.	74	August 16, 2011	132,117.77	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
149.	75	August 18, 2011	71,823.25	PT Bank Central Asia Jakarta, Indonesia
150.	76	September 19, 2011	243,052.63	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
151.	77	October 21, 2011	116,862.89	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
152.	78	October 27, 2011	129,538.96	MISR Iran Development Bank, Cairo, Egypt
153.	79	November 1, 2011	228,630.98	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
154.	80	November 28, 2011	90,632.00	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
155.	81	December 6, 2011	176,270.90	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
156.	82	January 1, 2012	194,573.86	Mashreq Bank PSC Dubai, UAE
157.	83	January 19, 2012	101,425.84	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
158.	84	February 9, 2012	104,743.71	Mashreq Bank PSC Dubai, UAE
159.	85	February 21, 2012	88,560.00	Habib Bank AG Zurich Dubai, UAE
160.	86	February 27, 2012	95,350.00	Emirates NBD Bank Dubai, UAE
161.	87	March 28, 2012	174,691.36	National Bank of Fujairah Dubai, UAE

162.	88	April 9, 2012	62,946.79	HSBC Bank Middle East Doha, Qatar
163.	89	April 19, 2012	235,363.16	Mashreq Bank PSC Dubai, UAE
164.	90	May 1, 2012	94,360.95	HSBC Bank Middle East Doha, Qatar
165.	91	May 31, 2012	77,950.20	Mashreq Bank PSC Dubai, UAE

166. This was in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(2)(A).

**COUNT 92**  
**Money Laundering Conspiracy**

167. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1-53, 55-62, 65-68, 71-115, and 121-165 of this Indictment are hereby re-alleged and incorporated by reference.

168. Beginning in at least 2007 and continuing through about 2012, in the Northern District of Iowa and elsewhere, defendants JALEL AOSSEY, WILLIAM "YAHYA" AOSSEY, MIDAMAR CORPORATION (MIDAMAR), ISLAMIC SERVICES OF AMERICA (ISA), and ISA INC., d/b/a "Islamic Services of America, Inc.," did knowingly and unlawfully conspire and agree with other persons whose names are known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to commit offenses against the United States in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(2)(A), to wit: to transmit and transfer monetary instruments and funds to a place in the United States from or through a place outside the United States with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity, that is, wire fraud in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

169. This was in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h).

**Money Laundering Forfeiture Allegation**

170. The allegations contained in Counts 48 – 91, inclusive, of this Indictment are hereby re-alleged and incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 982(a)(1).

171. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(1), upon conviction of an offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956 (Counts 48 – 92 above), the defendants JALEL AOSSEY, WILLIAM “YAHYA” AOSSEY, MIDAMAR CORPORATION (MIDAMAR), ISLAMIC SERVICES OF AMERICA (ISA), and ISA INC., d/b/a “Islamic Services of America, Inc.” shall forfeit to the United States of America any property, real or personal, involved in such offense, and any property traceable to such property.

172. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of the defendants:

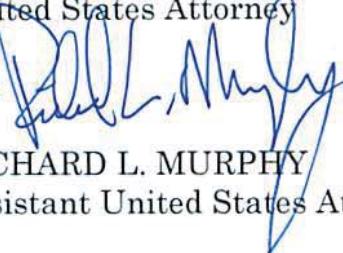
- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty,

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b)(1) and Title 28, United States Code, Section

2461(c).

A TRUE BILL

KEVIN W. TECHAU  
United States Attorney

By: 

RICHARD L. MURPHY  
Assistant United States Attorney

s/Foreperson

Foreperson

12-5-14  
Date